

THE **crossing** **small groups**

Lord of the Sabbath: Luke 6:1-11

Sermon Discussion Participant Guide

Purpose of Discussion: To understand how deeply we need Jesus every single day; to talk about ways we lose sight of his wonder and discuss together how we can make time alone with him a priority in our lives

Icebreaker: Dave showed a picture of a woman caught with 65 stolen Stanley cups in her trunk.

Easy: What is something you had to have because it was popular?

Deeper: What is something you want or desire because you notice other people having it?

Warm Up: What was your initial reaction to Dave's mention of **mimetic desire**, the idea that people don't really know what to value until they see what other people value?

Discussion

Luke tells a story about a group of people called the Pharisees, the religious leaders of the day, to show how they were missing out on what was truly important.

Read:

[Luke 6:5-11](#)

⁵ Then Jesus said to them, "The Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath."

⁶ On another Sabbath he went into the synagogue and was teaching, and a man was there whose right hand was shriveled. ⁷ The Pharisees and the teachers of the law were looking for a reason to accuse Jesus, so they watched him closely to see if he would heal on the Sabbath. ⁸ But Jesus knew what they were thinking and said to the man with the shriveled hand, "Get up and stand in front of everyone." So he got up and stood there.

⁹ Then Jesus said to them, "I ask you, which is lawful on the Sabbath: to do good or to do evil, to save life or to destroy it?"

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¹⁰ He looked around at them all, and then said to the man, “Stretch out your hand.” He did so, and his hand was completely restored. ¹¹ But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law were furious and began to discuss with one another what they might do to Jesus.

1. In these verses, what was Jesus teaching and showing about himself?

2. What were the Pharisees more focused on than Jesus?

Transition: We live in a world that is consumed with things that are here today and gone tomorrow or issues that are important today and old news by tomorrow. These things can steal our attention and our time away from experiencing and enjoying God. However, Jesus modeled a different kind of focus.

Read:

[Luke 5:16](#)

¹⁶ But Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed.

[Luke 6:12](#)

¹² One of those days Jesus went out to a mountainside to pray, and spent the night praying to God.

3. What do we learn from Jesus about taking time to be alone with our Father?

Discuss

The Bible teaches that the Sabbath is an image of the restoration Jesus would bring. It is in Jesus that we find the rest our souls actually crave.

Read

[Matthew 11:28-29](#)

²⁸ “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.”

4. How do you see God’s people missing out on this rest today?

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5. Dave shared John Mark Comer's quote, "In the end, your life is no more than the sum of what you give your attention to." What kinds of things do you give the power to steal your most precious resource, your attention?

Transition

In our passage from Luke, Dave touched on the obedience of the man who needed healing for his hand. Let's look at that verse together.

Read

Luke 6:10

¹⁰ he looked around at them all, and then said to the man, "Stretch out your hand," He did so, and his hand was completely restored."

6. When was the man's hand healed, and why does that matter for us?

Transition

Sometimes we feel like God is absent, but in reality, our attention is so focused elsewhere, we lose sight of his presence. Dave said, "Some times are better than others. That's okay. You'll be back. The key is the *regular rhythm*. Like Jesus did."

7. How could a *regular rhythm* work to draw your imperfect attention closer toward your end goal of being more like Jesus?

Optional Dig Deeper Questions:

- What makes it hard for you to make quiet and solitude with God an important part of daily life?
- How often are you aware of the Spirit of God that lives inside of you?
- What difference does it make to believe that God's presence never wavers?

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Sharing and Prayer:

From the closing of Dave's sermon, use these questions to share one request with the group so you can pray for one another during the week.

What are you *asking* God to do in your life?

What about God's character are you *praising* him for?

How are you *confessing* that you're not living in light of his Word?

Pray: Close in prayer for the things mentioned and ask God to help each of us prioritize quiet and solitude with him so that we can be filled with the wonder of his presence.